# **SMART & BIGGAR**

Intellectual Property & Technology Law

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Page 1 of:

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Attention:

MAILSTOP AF

(Examiner NGUYEN, Tuan Hoang.

Group Art Unit 2618)

From:

R. Allan Brett

Your file no .:

10/787,302

Reply to Ottawa file no.:

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Docket Number (Optional) PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW 51085-4 Application Number Filed I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mall In an envelope addressed to "Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for 10/787,302 February 27, 2004 Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR First Named Inventor RAO, Padakandla Krishna Skanature Art Unit . Examiner Typed or printed 2618 Tuan Hoang Nguyen name Applicant requests review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed with this request. This request is being filed with a notice of appeal. The review is requested for the reason(s) stated on the attached sheet(s). Note: No more than five (5) pages may be provided. I am the applicant/inventor. Signature assignee of record of the entire interest. R. Allan Brett See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96) Typed or printed name attorney or agent of record. 40.476 613-232-2486 Registration number \_\_ Telephone number attomey or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34. Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34 August 13, 2007 NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

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### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/787,302

Confirmation No.

**Applicant** 

Padakandla Krishna Rao

Filed

: February 27, 2004

TC/A.U.

2618

Examiner

Tuan Hoang Nguyen

Docket No.

51085-4

Customer No.

07380

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Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

#### PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Applicant requests review of the rejections set out in the Final Action dated June 13, 2007 in connection with the above-identified application. A Notice of Appeal has been submitted concurrently herewith.

#### Claim Rejections under 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 13-14, 20-21 and 23-26 under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by European Patent No. 1 330 138 ("Valentine"). The Examiner has also rejected claims 3-12, 15-19 and 22 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Valentine in view of other cited art. However, for reasons detailed below, it is apparent that the Examiner's rejection of these claims is completely improper.

#### Claim 1

Applicant provided remarks for overcoming the Examiner's rejections in the Response dated April 16, 2007. The Examiner responded in the Advisory Action dated June 13, 2007 indicating that Applicant's arguments are "not persuasive". However, it is apparent that the Examiner has not even considered all of Applicant's arguments. Specifically, the Examiner has completely ignored Applicant's arguments that Valentine does not teach a user device operable to "make information pertaining to the

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provisioned talkgroup identifiers available to a user of the user device" as recited in claim 1. These arguments are found in the Response dated April 16, 2007 on page 7, lines 12-29, which is reproduced below.

The present application is concerned with the problem of informing users of talk groups that are provisioned, typically at the time of service activation, but that the user is unaware of or may have forgotten. Applicant notes that there may be a plurality of talk groups provisioned for the user device. A problem that Applicant has recognized is that the user may forget which talkgroups are provisioned for the user device. Accordingly, the user device is operable to "make information pertaining to the provisioned talkgroup identifiers available to a user of the user device" as recited in claim 1. This allows the user to become aware or be reminded of each talk group that has been provisioned for the user device. The Examiner contends that Valentine teaches this subject matter in Figure 3 and column 8, lines 24-31 (i.e. paragraph 0052). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Paragraph 0052 of Valentine teaches that "The MS 1/2 receives the new TGID code(s) in step 3/0, and updates its scan list, as shown in step 312." However, note that Valentine does not teach that the MS is operable to "make information pertaining to the provisioned talkgroup identifiers available to a user of the user device" as recited in claim 1. Rather, Valentine teaches that "If the MS wishes to initiate a location-specific group call, the MS then uses the newly assigned TGID code." There is no apparent need in Valentine for the user of the MS to be provided with information pertaining to the new TGID code. Rather, the MS simply uses the new TGID code for initiating a location-specific group call.

With reference to the arguments reproduced above, Applicant has clearly shown that Valentine does not teach a user device operable to "make information pertaining to the provisioned talkgroup identifiers available to a user of the user device" as recited in claim 1. The Examiner has not been able to point to any prior art that teaches this subject matter. Moreover, it is clear from the Advisory Action dated June 13, 2007 that the Examiner has completely ignored Applicant's arguments on this issue. On this basis alone, the Examiner's continued rejection of claim 1 is clearly without basis and a careful review of the rejection is therefore required.

Furthermore, Valentine does not teach a user device "adapted to obtain from the dispatch network a user-device specific set of at least one provisioned talk group identifier" (emphasis added)

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as recited in claim 1. Applicant argued in the Response dated April 16, 2007 that the talk groups and associated talk group identifier codes in Valentine are <u>location-specific</u>, and not <u>user-device specific</u> as in the present application. However, in the Advisory Action dated June 13, 2007 the Examiner appears to disregard these arguments on the basis of Valentine's teaching in column 7, lines 1-5, which is reproduced below.

The memory device 216 stores a wide array of <u>MS-specific data</u>, such as decoding/encoding functions, neighbour and serving cell information relating to timing, frequency channels, power control and the like, <u>as well as the TGID codes</u> to be scanned when in a particular cell. (Emphasis added)

Applicant appreciates that this passage states "MS-specific data" and "TGID codes". However, this does not mean that the TGID codes are MS-specific. The passage provides examples of MS-specific that ends with "power control and the like". The passage goes on to indicate that the memory device 216 stores "TGID codes to be scanned in a particular cell". The storing of the TGID codes is not to be confused with the examples of the MS-specific data. Valentine makes a distinction between the examples of the MS-specific data and the TGID codes with the text ", as well as". Also, in stating that the TGID codes are "to be scanned when in a particular cell", Valentine indicates that the TGID codes are location-specific, and not MS-specific.

The only reasonable interpretation of Valentine's teaching in column 7, lines 1-5 is that the TGID codes are location-specific, and not MS-specific. Moreover, it is unreasonable to interpret this passage to mean that the TGID codes are MS-specific because this would be contradictory to Valentine's disclosure as a whole. Other portions of Valentine clearly indicate that the TGID codes are location-specific and not MS-specific data. For example, Valentine teaches in paragraph 0052 that if the registration is successful, then "the serving BTS assigns and/or transmits one or more TGID codes to the MS, related to location specific group calls in its coverage area" (emphasis added). The MS receives the new TGID code(s) and updates its scan list. Paragraph 0052 explicitly teaches that the TGID codes correspond to "location specific" group calls, which indicates that the TGID codes are also location specific. Other portions of Valentine make it clear that the TGID codes are location specific. For example, the first step of claim 1 of Valentine recites "assigning (308) dynamically a location specific group identification code to a group of communication units

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based upon said communication units' location or cell within the radio communication system (100)" (emphasis added). This clearly suggests that the TGID codes are <u>location specific</u> and relate to <u>location specific</u> group calls. This teaches away from Applicant's claimed <u>user-device specific</u> talk group identifiers.

The Examiner appears to have rejected Applicant's arguments on the basis of an improper interpretation of Valentine's teaching in column 7, lines 1-5. This is a clear error on part of the Examiner. The Examiner's rejection of claim 1 is therefore without basis and a careful review of the rejection is therefore required.

#### Claims 2-12 and 20-24

Claims 2-12 and 20-24 similarly include the feature of a user device operable to make information pertaining to the provisioned talkgroup identifiers available to a user of the user device. As noted above, the Examiner has ignored the fact that Valentine does not teach this subject matter. On this basis alone, the Examiner's rejection of claim 2-12 and 20-24 is clearly without basis and a careful review of the rejection is therefore required.

Furthermore, these claims similarly define that the provisioned talkgroup identifiers are <u>user-device specific</u>. As noted above, with a reasonable interpretation of Valentine, it is clear that Valentine does not teach this subject matter. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of claim 2-12 and 20-24 is without clearly basis and a careful review of the rejection is therefore required.

#### Claims 13-19, 25 and 26

Claims 13-19, 25 and 26 similarly define that the provisioned talkgroup identifiers are <u>user-device specific</u>. As noted above, with a reasonable interpretation of Valentine, it is clear that Valentine does not teach this subject matter. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of claim 13-19, 25 and 26 is without basis and a careful review of the rejection is therefore required.

In view of the foregoing, it is clear that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-26 is improper. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection.

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Favourable consideration is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PADAKANDLA KRISHNA RAO

Ву

Kllan Brett

Reg. No. 40,476

Date: August 13, 2007

RAB:PDB:mcg